IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

ATTY. DOCKET NO.:

DE920000058US1

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

§ 88888

ANDREAS ARNING

EXAMINER:

VAN BRAMER, JOHN W.

SERIAL NO.:

10/034,973

CONFIRMATION NO. 2103

FILED:

ART UNIT:

3622

20 DECEMBER 2001

8888888

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

REWARDING A USER'S INTERACTION BEHAVIOR WITH A COMPUTER

SYSTEM

REPLY BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply Brief is submitted in answer to the Response to Argument set forth in Paragraph 10 of the Examiner's Answer mailed March 27, 2007.

ARGUMENTS

On page 6 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner states that there is no limitation in Claim 1 for a first and second website. Claim 1 includes the limitation of a "user returning from the first web document to a second web document." Appellants did not intend to broaden the scope beyond what is claimed, which relates to going from one web document to another (rather than one website to another). Therefore, this issue should be moot.

Exemplary Claim 2 claims a feature of rewarding a user only if that user goes to a second web page for a specified period of time. On page 8 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner discusses Lowell's teaching of monitoring web traffic, and teaches that award points can be granted to viewers of webpages for viewing a brochure, visiting a site during off-peak hours, etc (Lowell, page 8, lines 48-67). However, there is no suggestion of making a reward dependent upon a user spending a pre-determined amount of time at a second web page. With regards to other comments about Claim 2 in the Examiner's Answer, Appellants refer attention to arguments already made in their original Appeal Brief.

No fee is believed to be required; however, in the event any fees are required, please charge International Business Machine's Deposit Account No. 09-0461. No extension of time is believed to be required; however, in the event any extension is required, please consider that extension requested and please charge any associated fee and any additional required fees International Business Machine's Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,

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